

Six Native American companies receive economic development grants

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Six

Northern New Mexico Native American-owned and operated businesses received a total of \$60,000 in grants through a new Native American Venture Acceleration Fund created by Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) and the [Regional Development Corporation](#) (RDC). The grants are designed to help the recipients create jobs, increase their revenue base and help diversify the local economy.

“The positive responses and active engagement with the Native American Venture Acceleration Fund are encouraging,” said Kurt Steinhaus, director of the Laboratory’s Community Programs Office. “These entrepreneurs and their companies are vital to the Northern New Mexico economy.”

The grant recipients are:

- NDN Energy, Jemez Pueblo, for providing lower-cost energy to gaming tribes in deregulated states and supporting key marketing tools.

- Three Eagles Development Corporation, Picuris Pueblo, for providing packaging and bar coding in the expansion of a new natural charcoal product.
- Cochiti Pueblo Development Corporation, for upgrading its accounting system and supporting the pueblo's membership in Quality New Mexico.
- Tano Services Corporation, Pojoaque Pueblo, for purchasing computer equipment and investing in new software and website development.
- Tesuque Flea Market, Tesuque Pueblo, for conducting a comprehensive brand analysis and expanding marketing programs statewide.
- Than Povi, San Ildefonso Pueblo, for refining its marketing plan, developing an advertising campaign and strengthening business relationships with the local hotel industry.

LANS funds the grants, and RDC manages the program. LANS is the manager/operator of the Laboratory.

Altogether, 12 proposals were submitted for funding last fall, and the remaining six will receive technical assistance from programs such as the New Mexico Small Business Assistance Program, Los Alamos Connect, and other organizations as needed.

More information about the Native American Venture Acceleration Fund is available through [Kathy Keith](#), executive director of the Regional Development Corporation, or [Vangie Trujillo](#) of the Lab's Community Programs Office.

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